

from other countries. Notably this must be the case with many drugs and chemicals and with instruments and the like. Immediate legislation in England and at home in the shape of shipping and marine insurance laws, was also a surprise and one tending to restore calm and render less long the period of inactivity in the movement of our products. So many and so essential have been the surprises that no one but a fool would attempt to prophesy what may happen to-morrow or the next day. Of one or two things, however, we may be sure. If we remain calm and neutral and at peace within and without ourselves, eventually this country will profit enormously. To be sure, all of Europe will be "broke" when the war is over, but it will recuperate; credits will have to be lengthened and readjusted; but the end is profit. There is no reason to be uneasy because the price of some things goes up; that is bound to happen. Also, the stoppage of certain business is bound to throw many people out of employment; but they will find other lines of activity, in time. The shoe will pinch here and there for a while, but it is bound to stretch and get shaped to the suddenly deformed foot, and eventually will become a very comfortable shoe. Let us thank God that we live in a land of peace, that we have wise guidance and an abundantly productive land, and let us look confidently toward the future, thinking as little of the ghastliness of the present, in other lands, as we possibly can. The war will result "to our advantage."

GRUESOMELY HUMOROUS!

Hearst, the advocate of Peace, with a capital "P"! One's stunned attention is diverted for a brief space from the unthinkable tragedy of Europe, by the vaudevillian floppings of the man who forced the newspaper war with Spain, had no words harsh enough for President Wilson because he would not make war on little Mexico, and now is for having the United States get very busy in the effort to secure universal Peace—with a capital "P"—and his best special writers pouring out columns of guff! A few brief weeks ago Hearst was hammering at Wilson for war; and now he is badgering Wilson for peace! Some things are funny, even in the midst of tragedy.

Eight nations of people suddenly decide to strive with might and main to put each other, in different groups, out of business in any way possible, and for that reason and purpose they have spent billions in accumulating death and murder dealing machines and methods. Everything is provided for the purpose of murder, by wholesale. To kill, in any way; from bombs in the air to mines under the earth and the sea; to kill is the thing desired. And then, forsooth, with all this preparation for killing in any way possible, one or the other of them complains that some other one is killing in not approved method! ! Insanity run riot; all sense of proportion and relative values gone. You may kill in one way, and it is quite all right; if you kill with some other sort of bullet, it is quite unfair! Was there ever such an utter absurdity! To steal unblushingly from someone else, it is like

opening the gates of the animal houses at the zoo, in front of a large crowd, after telling the animals that they may bite the people but they must not hurt them!

RISING PRICES.

Complaint has reached the JOURNAL that certain firms are raising prices on commodities needed by physicians and their patients. In some instances this is true and in others it is not the case, though some increase, in a number of lines, must be expected. The American agents for the salvarsans have announced that they will not sell any of their stock to dealers but will sell direct to physicians, as long as the supply lasts, at the old retail price. Bischoff announces that they will not increase the price on their products as long as any stock remains, and Schering and Glatz have made the same announcement. Walters Surgical Co. have sent out a letter saying that they had made an immediate increase of 20% on certain lines of office and hospital fixtures. This would hardly seem fair, at the present time, as it would seem to be more appropriate when the price goes up on them. Lackenbach announces that he will continue to sell the salvarsans at the price of \$5.00 with the necessary apparatus for injection, but that none will be sold at the old price without the apparatus; as the importing agent has raised the price to the retailer and as Lackenbach's line of business is somewhat specialized, this seems to be not unreasonable. It is a bit difficult to say just when a rise in price is justified and proper and when it is not, but common sense and the matter of supply and demand will settle these things in the end.

COUNCIL MEETING.

A meeting of the Council of the State Society was held on September 12, at which meeting nine of the twelve Councilors and the President and Secretary were present. In view of the fact that the A. M. A. is to meet in San Francisco in June and that a considerable number of members had requested that the annual meeting of the State Society be dispensed with in April, 1915, because of the other and larger meeting in June, the Secretary was instructed to take a mail ballot of the House of Delegates to determine whether the meeting of the State Society should be omitted and things go along as they are until April, 1916.

Owing to the fact that considerable friction has developed on a number of occasions, when members sued for alleged malpractice held insurance policies in some company, between the attorneys for the company and the attorney for the Society, the following action was taken: The Secretary was instructed to notify any member who might be sued and who is insured in some company, that it will be necessary for him to choose which agency he will elect to defend his interests and the reasons for this; and further to notify him that the attorney for the Society will watch the conduct of the case and if necessary or desirable will advise with or co-operate with the attorney for the company. The object is not to avoid doing any of this work for our members, but to see that the work is done